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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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2. The second main problem to be discussed at the forthcoming convention is a delicate one concerning the Orthodox Church and the Peoples Republic of Macedonia. A decision of some kind will be made to effect the separation and insure the independence of the Macedonian Orthodox Church from the Serbian Orthodox Church. Clergymen in Macedonia who are supporters of the regime-sponsored Brotherhood of Orthodox Clergymen of Macedonia are seeking, at the suggestion of the regime, the following:
 - a. The recognition of the Ohrid archbishopric as the seat of an autonomous orthodox church for the territory of Macedonia.
 - b. The establishment of the Ohrid archbishopric with four episcopates at Bitolj, Skoplje, Debar and Strumica. The Ohrid archbishop would hold the episcopate in Skoplje and establish a vicarial bishop in Ohrid.
 - c. The institution of the Ohrid archbishopric's own, independent Holy Synod which would be completely administered by the Orthodox Church of Macedonia.
3. If Macedonian wishes are met, then the only link between the Serbian Orthodox Patriarchate in Belgrade and the Ohrid archbishopric would stem from the Ohrid archbishop's recognition of the Serb Patriarch and the citation of his name in the archbishopric's religious services.
4. The Holy Synod of a Macedonian Orthodox Church would open, as soon as possible, a seminary in Ohrid or in Sv. Naum, to which it would send its Macedonian clergymen. Furthermore, the Government of the Peoples Republic of Macedonia would immediately open a theological faculty in Skoplje which would be conducted in the Macedonian language.

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Comment:

background information on the Serbian Patriarch Vikentije Prodanov and his relations with the Yugoslav Government.

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